

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-63, 65-67, 69-72, 76-78, 83, 85, 86, 88-91, 95, 96 and 101 are cancelled. New claims 102-117 are added. Claims 64, 68, 73-75, 77, 79-82, 84, 87, 92-94, 96-100, and 102-111 are pending and are presented for examination.

### **1 Allowable Subject Matter**

In order to expedite allowance of the application, the applicants have placed the claims in order for allowance according to the Examiner's recommendations in the paragraph bridging pages 4-5 of the Office Action. Accordingly:

- The limitations of allowable claim 77 are incorporated into claim 64, from which claim 77 depends. Claim 77 is cancelled.
- The limitations of allowable claim 96 are incorporated into claim 84, from which claim 96 depends. Claim 96 is cancelled.

### **2 New Claims**

New claims 102-111 are added, separating out the formulas listed in claim 84 into individual dependent claims, each depending from the amended claim 84.

New claims 112-114 are added, reciting the specific aspects of the invention in which the therapeutic compound is etoposide (112 and 114), and in which the therapeutic compound is an etoposide analog which retains some or all of the therapeutic activity of etoposide (113 and 115).

Finally, new claims 116 and 117 are added reciting the specific aspects of the invention in which the therapeutic compound is derivatized by 1 PEG oligomer. For support, see claims 73 and 92.

### 3 Title

The title is amended to make it more descriptive of the content of the claims as presently amended. However, the amendment in the title is not intended to limit the scope of the claims in any way.

### 4 Conclusions

Based on the foregoing discussion, and the arguments previously presented in the response to the June 28, 2005 Office Action, the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

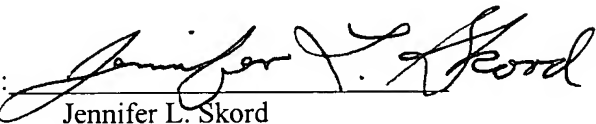
If any issues remain outstanding incident to the allowance of the application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at 919-286-8128.

Although it is believed that no fee is due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies associated with this Communication, to **Deposit Account No. 13-4365**.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 26, 2005

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